

REMARKS

With this response, claims 22-31, 33-44, 46-57, 59, 60, and 69-80 are pending.

The Office indicated in the current Office action that claims 28-31, 33-44, 48-57, 59, 60, and 69-80 are pending. However, claims 22-31, 33-44, 46-57, 59, 60, and 69-80 were presented by applicants in the previous response as pending. With this Office action, the Office has not indicated any reason for having withdrawn or cancelled any claims other than those cancelled by applicant in the previous response (namely, claims 32, 45, 58, and 61-68). Therefore, applicants presume that the Office mistakenly asserted which claims are currently pending, intending to assert that claims 22-31, 33-44, 46-57, 59, 60, and 69-80 are currently pending.

I. 35 U.S.C. 112, 102, and 103 Rejections

Applicants acknowledge the Office's reconsideration and withdrawal of these rejections.

II. Obviousness-Type Double Patenting

The Office provisionally rejected claims 28-31, 33-44, 48-57, 59, 60, and 69-80 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-14, 16, 18-19, and 20 of co-pending Application No. 10/018,304.

* Without addressing the merits of the Office's rejection, applicants submit herewith a Terminal Disclaimer to obviate the provisional double patenting rejection over pending Application No. 10/018,304.

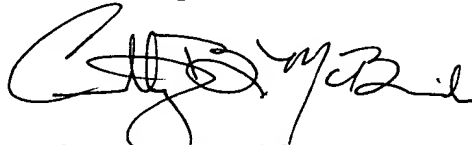
Accordingly, applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the provisional obviousness-type double patenting rejection of claims 28-31, 33-44, 48-57, 59, 60, and 69-80.

CONCLUSION

In light of the above arguments, applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the provisional obviousness-type double patenting rejection.

Applicants request an extension of time to and including June 12, 2004, for filing this amendment. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency or overpayment in connection with this amendment to Deposit Account No. 19-1345.

Respectfully submitted,



Timothy B. McBride, Reg. No. 78,781
SENNIGER, POWERS, LEAVITT & ROEDEL
One Metropolitan Square, 16th Floor
St. Louis, Missouri 63102
(314) 231-5400

TBM/sxm
* Enclosure
Express Mail Label No. EV 432653795 US